LETTER FROM THE Hos. A. F. OWEN.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 29. 1851.

Messrs. Gales & Seaton: Will you do me the favor to allow me, through the medium of your extensively circulated journal, to make an exposition purely of a personal character? I am aware that such matters are usually uninteresting and not unfrequently quite distasteful to an intelligent public. But in this instance I feel that I have a right to ask a hearing even without an apology.

In my conduct as late Consul for Havana I have been harshly assailed and bitterly denounced, not to say grossly misrepresented and shamefully traduced before the American people. Of the character of those who were the most efficient actors in this conspiracy against my good name and reputation, or their objects or motives, I have no special law which is in force in that colony. intention at this time or in this way to speak. If my cause cannot stand upon its own merits before the tribunal of an impartial and right-thinking people, I am willing that I and it may be consigned to that reprobation which both would so richly deserve, if I were such a man as I have been represented to be. My object, therefore, in asking of you the favor, is not to use the medium of your paper for the purpose of assailing any one, not even my calumniators, but only to defend myself. I feel that I have been most unjustly dealt by. Whether others who have not the same interest in the matter shall be of the same opinion will depend upon their judgment upon what I have to sav.

What, then, are the charges which have been brought against me? Not having seen any presented in any regu- of those who came in under the proclamation of the Governor lar form, I shall have to allude to them as I have seen them stated in the newspapers at different times. And, to begin with the most prominent: -

1st. It has been said, in substance, that I refused to take any steps on the morning of the 16th of August last to arrest the proceedings which resulted in the condemnation and sentence of death pronounced against my unfortunate countrymen who were taken in the ill-fated Lopez expedition, who were that day executed by the authorities in the Island of Cuba; and not only this, but that I refused to see them or to bear any messages from them to their friends, or to do any thing manifesting any commiseration for them in their miserable condition.

To this I have simply to say that it is not true that I refused to take any steps to arrest the proceedings which resulted in the order for their execution. It is not true that I knew of their capture until after their condemnation. As I have stated on a former occasion, they were condemned before I heard of their capture : so that I had no time to act, or to do any thing to prevent their sentence, if I had had the power to do so. Again: It is not true that I refused to see them after their condemnation. Nor is it true that any desire was expressed by any one of them to see me that was made known to me. On the contrary, I did express a desire to see them, for the purpose of bearing any message they might deliver to me to be borne to their friends. And I was informed that Mr. Costa, of New Orleans, known personally to some of them, had been sent for, and had attended to such matters. And I ask that all fair men will bear in mind that I had no more power or authority from my official position to act in the matter than any other American citizen who happened to be there, as will hereafter be fully shown. But it is not true that I even failed to do my utmost as an individual to avert the sad fate of these men under the most moving and melancholy circumstances of their situation. As soon as I arrived at my office, a little after ten o'clock in the morning, and heard of their sentence and approaching doom, I addressed a note to the Governor and Captain General of the Island. This I did not do in my official character, because, apart from my knowledge of the full extent of my official powers, I had, in an interview with the Captain General the day before touching the course intended to be pursued by him in case any of the men invading the island should be captured, been informed by him that he would not allow any interference, either official or personal, by any Consul in their behalf, let them belong to whatever nation they might. I therefore, on reaching my office, fearing a personal interview might be denied me, wrote and delivered in person to the private secretary of the Captain General the note which follows. purely as an act of humanity. The note and the reply the public can judge of for themselves:

"COMMERCIAL AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES. " Havar "Sin: I have just arrived in the city, and heard of the capture of about fifty of the men who came with Lopez, and that they have been condemned to be shot very soon. Under these embarrassing circumstances, I regard it as my solemn duty to make an appeal to your Excellency in behalf of these unfortunate men; and I trust that this will not be considered as an 'interference,' either official or personal, on my part. I earnestly beseech that the prisoners may be spared, and if all cannot be spared, that no more shall be taken than are deemed to be absolutely necessary; and if neither of these petitions can be granted, that your Excellency will not permit the prisoners to be executed immediately, but allow them all the

" I have the honor to be your Excellency's obedient A. F. OWEN. " His Excellency Sr. D. Jose DE LA CONCHA,

allow me an interview at once?

time possible in their dreadful condition. Will your Ex-

"Governor and Captain General of the Island of Cuba." [Seal of the Government of the Island of Cuba.]

OFFICE OF THE POLITICAL SECRETARY. I have just received the communication that you have been pleased to address me, interesting you self that I shall spare the lives of all or some of the fifty prisoners, or that the penalty of death upon one mity personers,

suspended. It is impossible for me to accede to any one captured men are not American citizens, or citizens of any other not on. They are pirate's, acknowledged and deed as such by the Span'sh Government, long before they had attempted the criminal undertaking that they accomplished; and no otherwise can be considered those who, without any acknowledged flag, assemble, arm them-selves, embark, invade, and spill the blood of the defenders of a quiet country, that is in full peace and friendship with the nation of which they call themselves citizens The American Government itself thus considered them also, when, in such solemn and public documents as its proclamations, it not only reprobated the expedition of which they formed a part, but assured, in the clearest and most explicit manner, that it would not acknowledge them as American citizens; that no effort would be made in their favor to save them from the penalty that might be laid upon them in the country where they were going; and that, for the same reason, it would abandon them to the fate they might there meet with. I cannot but be surprised, therefore, that you should interest yourself in their favor in the letter which I am answering; although with the saving clause that it may not be considered as an official or personal "interference." You are aware that Consuls, who are strictly commercial agents, ought not in any not be ignorant either that the will of your Government is that no efforts be made in behalf of those who compose such criminal expeditions as the one now alluded to

It being, in the most complete manner, proved that the fifty prisoners you recommend to me are part of those who, trampling upon all international law, invaded in arms this pacific island, and fought against the soldiers that defend it; it being notorious that their companions still resist, protected by the mountains, the attacks of our troops; and that they, after the defeat they sustained, were trying to save themselves by flight, neither justice nor policy counsel me to accede to the wishes expressed by you; and in this affair I will not admit any interference, privately or officially, from you, nor from the other Consuls resident in this city.

God preserve you many years! JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

HAVANA, August 16, 1851.

It may be proper, before proceeding further, to state that a very general misapprehension seems to prevail in the public mind touching the powers and duties of a Consul for Havana. It does not seem to be known or appreciated that he is restricted in express terms to such matters as are strictly commercial. He has no diplomatic powers, and is so informed by the Government of the United States, and every communication made by him on subjects other than commercial can only be addressed as matters of facor, and not of right. This can readily be perceived by reading the extent of the powers as set forth in the following royal

DON'S INABEL, THE SECOND, by the Grace of God and the Constitution of the Spanish monarchy, Queen of Spain: Inasmuch as the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States has reported that the President of said Republic away. He owes his deliverance to me. How far he has repaid has appointed Mr. Allen F. Owen Consul of the same for my attentions and kindness others may judge.

Havana, as it appears from the commission which he has exhibited, begging that I would be pleased to approve of it, in order that he may exercise the functions of said office, and to which I have assented : Therefore, I command the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, and the other authorities whose duty it may be to see this my royal decree carried out, to receive and to recognise the aforesaid Mr. Allen F. Owen in the capacity of Consul of the United States at Havana, in the form prescribed by the royal ordinance of the twenty-fourth of March, one tho eight hundred and twenty-nine, and to permit him to mjoy and to exercise his functions; in doing which he is ot to exercise any act of jurisdiction, being only allowed to interpose his arbitration in controversies which may occur between merchants and seafaring people, with a view of reconciling them and of settling their differences. Under which condition, and none other, I grant him this my royal authority to perform the functions of said office; and to this effect I order that he may be allowed to exercise the privileges and to receive the emoluments apper-taining to the same, and that he may enjoy the exemp-Given in Madrid, on the 12th of August, one thousand

eight hundred and fifty-one. I THE OUEEN. (Countersigned.)

THE MARQUIS MIRAFLORES. This is the usual form of the powers allowed by Spain o all Consuls in her transmarine dependencies. And from this it will be seen that I had no more power to act in the matter under consideration than any other citizen of the United States in Havana at that time; no more than any one of our naval officers within the range of whose guns the execution took place. If any one of all the American citizens then there, either with or without any official connexion with our Government, did more than I did, or even as much, I have yet to learn it. But, to proceed:

2d. It has been said that, after the surrender and capture and Captain-General of the 24th August, and were committed to the Punta prison afterwards, I refused to see them, or to do any thing for them, or to make any intercession for them. One of these prisoners, Capt. Kelly, has published under his own hand, since his return to this ountry, a statement, which has had an extensive circulation through the medium of the presses of the country, making this charge, and other charges also, which I shall not deign to notice. It is due to me that the public, however, should know the facts; and I shall not so far comromit my own self-respect as to ask the public to judge between me and him. But that Capt. Kelly may see himself how far he is sustained by Capt. Platt and Lieut. Taylor, of the United States sloop-of-war Albany, to whom he referred in a part of his statement, I subjoin their joint

UNITED STATES SHIP ALBANY. Havana, December 4, 1851. Sin: Your note of this date, in reference to a letter published by Capt. Kelly, of the late Lopez expedition, has been received, and we take great pleasure in comply-

ing with your request. We have no hesitation in saying that Capt. Kelly has made a great mistake in that portion of his statement referring to ourselves, to wit:

When Capt. Platt of the sloop-of-war Albany visited us, I sent to Mr. Owen by him, and he again refused to come. Then Lieut. Taylor, of the Albany, said he would make him come,' and the next morning Mr. Owen paid us a visit with Capt. Platt."

The facts are simply these. Before we proceeded to the Punta, on the 30th August, we called at your office, and you then desired us to say to the prisoners confined there for taking part in the invasion of Cuba, that if they wished see you you would pay them a visit, although you could do nothing for them in your official capacity. This mes-sage was delivered to them, and they said that they would glad to have you come. Your visit to them, in company with Capt. Platt, was made in compliance with their ceptance of your offer.

The inference to be drawn from the above quotation from Capt. Kelly's letter is that Lieut. Taylor saw the prisoners some time subsequent to Capt. Platt's first visit o them. Lieut Taylor never saw them, except in company with Capt. Platt on the occasion mentioned. Neither of us heard any complaint from them, at that time, of any neglect or indifference on your part towards them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants, CHARLES T. PLATT, A. F. Owen, Esq., U. S. Consul, Havana.

Now the facts are, that these men, or most of them at least, were brought to the city of Havana and committed to prison on the 28th and 29th of August. On the 30th I addressed the following communication to the Governor

COMMERCIAL AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES,

Havana, August 30, 1851. Sin: I desire to invite your Excellency's attention to the subject of the American prisoners belonging to the expedition of Lopez. Some of them have been captured. others have surrendered, and others still will be captured or surrender under the proclamation which your Excellency was good enough to issue on the 24th instant.

The invasion being ended by the capture and dispersion of the men, and the leader of it being in the power of the Government, it is not, I am sure, desired, either by your Excellency or the Supreme Government, that the unfortunate and misguided men who were engaged in it shall needlessly suffer longer. It is doubtless knewn to your Excellency that these men

have already suffered much. Without a shelter from the storm, without food, save the wild fruit which chance threw in their way, almost destitute of clothing, they have for many days wandered in the mountains, pursued and hunted down by the very men who, they were told, were up in arms and revolutionizing this Government.
In view of all these things, the misrepresentations of

the designing by whom these unfortunate men have been induced to invade this island, and the sufferings they have already endured, I respectfully request that the chains may be removed from the limbs of the prisoners, and that their reated with all the kindness consistent with

ir-keeping.
I trust that your Excellency will permit the prisoners be visited by such of their countrymen as are here or may come here during their confinement, and who may desire to see them; and that they may be allowed such things, in the way of diet, clothing, and the like, as may conduce to their comfort, which it is desired to afford

can be granted, to present some views for your Excellency's consideration relative to the liberation of all these unfortunate men: many of them are husbands, and have dependant wives and helpless children : more of them have fathers, mothers, and sisters, who will be in the deepest distress at their capture and imprisonment when it shall become known to them.

Hoping for the most favorable results, and believing that your Excellency will embrace the opportunity of showing kindness and humanity to the prisoners, I have the honor to be your Excellency's obedient servant

His Excellency Sr. D. Jose DE LA CONCHA.

Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba. The same day that this letter was addressed to the Captain General, Capt. Platt and Lieut. Taylor called to see me on their way to the prison. They had previously obtained a written permit from the Captain General to visit the prisoners. I sent word by these officers to the prioners that I would visit them and do what I could for them, if they desired it. At the same time that they might not be mistaken as to the extent of my powers, I sent them word that I could do nothing for them in my official character. How far my sympathies were enlisted in their behalf may be judged of by the character of my letter. The interview with the Captain General, requested in that letter, was granted. And on the evening of the same day, the 30th of August, the Captain General, in that interview, made known to me his intention to pardon the whole of the prisoners. The next day, August 31st, the news was received of the unfortunate outrages at New Orleans, and the Captain General immediately

sent for me and informed me of the change of his purpose. But as soon as I obtained a permit to visit the prisoners, I did so; and to the utmost of my ability I did all I could to administer to their wants and alleviate their condition. At my intercession their chains were removed; and I directed the storekeepers of the prisons, after getting permission for that purpose, to furnish them with every thing they stood in need of, in the way of food and clothing, and to charge the same to my personal account. These bills were paid out of my own private purse. Other American citizens also generously contributed in the same way. And when the Captain General informed me that although he could not pardon all the prisoners, as I had urgently requested him, yet he would pardon a few of them, I interceded specially in behalf of Capt. Kelly, and made his case prominent, because he made such a strong appeal on account of his wife and children, who, he said, would be loft in great destitution if he should be sent

I knew nothing of Capt. Kelly until I saw him in prison; and I know nothing of him since except that he owes that liberty which enables him to abuse me to my own generous nature, which prompted me to select him, out of great many others, as one of a few for whom I specialv invoked Executive clemency. But, again :

3d. It has been said that I was negligent in the discharge of my duty to Mr. John S. Thrasher, who has lately been sent to Spain. On this point I may barely say that I did all in my power to have Mr. Thrasher's case presented in the way he desired it, as the several communications I addressed to the Captain General in his behalf

Whether he was right in his construction of our treaty with Spain or not, is not for me to say; nor whether he was rightfully or wrongfully condemned. But whether my conduct towards him as an unfortunate countryman, claiming the rights of an American citizen in a foreign land, was kind or unkind, can perhaps best be judged of by the estimation he placed on it in the following letter:

Moro Castle, Havana, November 26, 1851. DEAR SIR: About to be embarked for Spain to fill a most iniquitous sentence, I have to thank you, which I do most sincerely, not only for your exertions in my behalf, which we can only regret have been unavailing, but also for many acts of kindness which you have extended to me.

You are well aware that I do not go sadly to my imprinment, because not only that I am perfectly innocent of

my countrymen will suffer my unjust sentence to be car-Reiterating my thanks to you, I remain, your obliged ervant,

J. S. THRASHER.

the charges against me, but also because I do not believe

A. F. Owen, Esq., Consul of the U. States of America. Now, Messrs. Editors, I have done. I have only alluded to the more prominent charges that have been made against me, as I have been enabled to comprehend them before and since my return.

I have neither time nor inclination to take up the thousands of other silly and unfounded slanders that have been ndustriously circulated against me.

I have said that I did not intend at this time or in this | Dr. Kane's Second Lecture-Arctic Explorations. yay to call in question the motives or objects of those who observe. My only object has been to speak in defence of visable not to light up the lecture room, but, as the hour myself and of my official conduct.

uded to the charges above specifically set forth as in any commenced the room was comfortably filled. way connected with the reasons of my recall. I do not know upon what grounds or for what cause I have been of Sir John Franklin, and the probabilities of his eventual recalled; nor do I wish to be considered as complaining rescue. of that recall. I am not the man to appeal to the public on account of such a grievance, even if I felt it. But I subject; indeed none at all, except in so far as the fact unfit for such a place, by proving that I was destitute of dition. their power to bestow.

Whatever may be my errors, I am sure none who know me will attribute them to any misdirection of the impulses of the heart. And it is for the information of those who | ceed through Lancaster Sound for some three hundred and | and laborious life. When the mind is called into constant | do not know me that I have been induced to make this fifty miles, to a Cape called Walker; thence he was to steer activity for a number of years, and the body consequently exposition.

care of yourself." If such shall be the general opinion of Franklin enabled him to see and take advantage of the can bear? But let us return to our subject. my countrymen I shall be satisfied.

Respectfully, your obedient servant, A. F. OWEN.

PROGRESS OF THE USURPATION IN FRANCE.

is the decree :

IN THE NAME OF THE FRENCH PEOPLE: The President of the Republic, upon the proposition of the Minister of the Interior: Considering that France requires order, labor, and se-

writy: that for too many years society has been disturbwell as by the attempts at insurrection of the members of secret societies and fugitives from justice, always ready

ot only compromise the public safety and tranquillity, but also authorize unjust attacks and odious c gainst the honest working classes of Lyons and Paris: Considering that the present laws are insufficient an require modifications, reconciling at the same time the duties of humanity with the demands of public safety;

Art. 1st. Every individual placed under the surveillance of the secret police, who shall be found guilty of disobeying their ban, shall be transported, as a measure of public safety, to some prison colony—to Cayenne or to Algiers. The duration of banishment will be not less

than five or more than ten years.

Art. 2d. The same punishment will be applicable ersons found guilty of belonging to secret societies.

Art. 3d. The effect of placing persons under the surcillance of the secret police will be in future to give to the Government the power to decide on the place of ban-

shment of those condemned. The administration will decide upon the formalities necessary to prevent the prisoner's escape.

Art. 4th. It is forbidden to all persons under the surreillance of the secret police to reside in the city or

arburbs of Paris. Art. 5th. The individuals designated in the preceding article must leave Paris and the eavirons within ten days from the promulgation of the present decree, unless they obtain a permission from the administration to delay their departure. There will be delivered to those who request which the drift never agglutinates. a map of the route which they will be allowed to take to their domiciles, or to the places of residence to which

Art. 6th. In case of disobedience to the 4th and 5th articles of the present decree, the disobedient will be transported to a prison colony, either Algiers or Cayenne, as measure of public safety.

Art. 7th. The individuals transported in virtue of the

present decree will be subjected to manual labor at the prison establishment; they will be deprived of their civil and military rights; military law will be applicable to them. In case of an attempt to escape, the condemned will be subjected to an imprisonment which will not last longer than the time which they have still to be banished. They will be subjected to military discipline and subordiation towards their civil or military governors during the period of their imprisonment. Art. 8th. The Executive will determine the organization

of these prison colonies.

Art. 9th. The Ministers of War and of the Interior are charged with the execution of the present decree. Done at the Palace of the Elysée, with the advice of the LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

The Minister of the Interior, A. DE MORNEY.

JOHN ADAMS (the elder) being called upon for a contri-ution for foreign missions, remarked, "I have nothing bution for foreign missions, remarked, "I have nothing to give for that cause, but there are here, in this vicinity, x Ministers, not one of whom will preach in the other's to civilize these Clergymen.'

CONGRESSIONAL DINNER TO KOSSUTH.

Our readers will see from the subjoined correspondence that M. Kossuth has accepted the invitation, tendered to him by a committee of members of Congress, to partake of a dinner on Wednesday next. This notice on the part of Congress is one of the highest compliments that would be paid to any individual, and is a proof that there is nothing in the proceedings of that body-however decided they are as an indication that sympathy for the Hungarian cause is not to be understood as adopting will abundantly show, and to which I need only refer at policy which would entangle us with the wars of Europe-which is not consistent with high personal regard for the distinguished chief of that cause.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 2, 1852.

by the members of the two Houses of Congress at such time as will suit your convenience.

bedient servant, WM. M. GWIN. To Governor Louis Kossuth.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 2, 1852. Sin: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the kind invitation to a public dinner from the committee of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States; and, understanding from you that Wednesday next will be a day convenient to the committee, I beg to say I shall be glad to avail myself of the honor they will confer upon me on that day.

With the highest respect, I have the honor to be your obedient servant, L. KOSSUTH The Hon. WM. M. GWIN, U. S. Senator.

SMITHSONIAN LECTURES.

On Wednesday evening, until about seven o'clock, the reated me so unfairly. This rule I have endeavored to weather was so very unfavorable that it was thought adof beginning approached, so large an audience had collect-It is proper that I should also state that I have not al- ed that it was concluded to go on, and before the lecture

Dr. KANE proceeded to discuss the supposed position

itself might corroborate the idea that I had rendered myself it were drawn the lines of ice-drift of the American Expe-

generous heart "to feel another's wo," and "to hide the this region is a vast archipelago, whose main approach is by exercise of the body is therefore extremely detrimental fault we see," which I value more than all the emoluments a large Sound, called Lancaster; and whose most prominent to both. of all the offices that all the powers on earth have it in passage to the north is by a large estuary or inlet, named after the Duke of Wellington. This Inlet has been fre- leges and universities are among the active business men quently observed free from ice.

Franklin was ordered by the British Admiralty to provery first of these early openings.

Add to this the singular and perplexing fact that Frank- bon, and some kinds much more than others. Sugar and Add to this the singular and perplexing fact that Frank-lin left no written record of his intentions, and it really fat meat, particularly pork, contain the largest quantity. that Sir John, with his daring and energetic promptitude, bad pushed into this part and pushed into the part and pushed i seems as if the ice had suddenly opened to the north, and This carbon, being extracted from our food by the digeshad pushed into this new water, without delaying to give blood in the form of chyle, is burnt up in the arteries The Paris Moniteur of December 9th (says the to the world behind him a notice of his course. Certain by the electricity inhaled through the lungs, as above possible moment.—English paper. New York Post) contains a most decided symptom it is that the deserted encampment bears marks of hasty stated. This combustion, which could not take place of an intention on the part of the Government to departure, forcing us to the conclusion that Sir John without the presence of oxygen, which also enters the dispense with all law. Upon the plea that no penal Franklin has six years ago reached the region north of blood through the lungs, produces the heat of our bodies. statute of sufficient severity exists to enable the this ice-bound inlet, and has since been unable to return. Government to deal with seditious offences, a decree | Can he have survived? This question was then taken | in cold climates, and during the cold season in temperate

general terms, as nothing would be easier than to whales, and seal-the latter in extreme abundance-crowd pation of the legislative power, the other decrees about the size of our teal-were absolutely wonderful. being more or less the necessary consequences or The fatty envelope of these marine animals, known as ecompaniments of the coup d'etat. The following blubber, supplies light and heat, their furs warm and well- circumstances. adapted clothing, their flesh wholesome and anti-scorbutio food; while the snow-hut, or Igloë of the Esquimaux,

In answer to the supposition of the entire destruction | the system; neither is it healthful to deprive the human o become the instruments of disorder;

Considering that this class of men, by habitual revolt, of the vessels and crews of Sir John Franklin by shiporganism of the necessary quantity of carbon, so long as wreck, or the attacks of the ice, Dr. Kane said that wind a person resides in a cold climate, or must expose himself storms were rare, and that the simultaneous destruction during the cold season in a temperate one. The Esquiof both vessels was hard to realize; but even supposing maux would find it impossible to sustain life without his that winds should have foundered the ships, or that the rations of blubber and train oil, seeing so few vegetables ice should have crushed them, that same ice would serve, grow in his country. in either case, as a means of escape. In 1832 more than one thousand whalers were cast out, shelterless, upon the as is proved by reason and by the fact that mankind do

ice in Baffin's bay. Yet only seven perished.

point which the American Expedition reached, that he lated in the system than is consistent with health; and to supposes Sir John Franklin and his companions to be immured; surrounded by seal, and the resources before sphere, is doubtless owing the prevalence of fever in the described, but unable to leave their hunting ground and West, and of dysentery, diarrhoea, and inflammatory discross the "frigid Sahara" which intervenes between them eases in California. But to return once more.

and the world from which they are shut out. We can imagine no position more calling for human vinced that the feelings which actuate Dr. Kane, in his brethren.

The interest in the subject was not only kept up, but enhanced by the graphic description of the terrors and perils of the ice-world.

A knitting machine is in operation at Philadelphia, pulpit; now, I will give as much and more than any one which, it is said, knits three hundred and eighty stitches at one turn of a crank.

COMMUNICATION.

PHYSIOLOGY.

BY H. R. SCHETTERLY, OF HOWELL, MICHIGAN. The heart of man and of all warm-blooded animals is double, having two distinct cavities on each side-an auricle and a ventricle. From the ventricle on the left side proceeds the great artery, called the aorta, which, dividing and subdividing into an almost infinite number of branches, too small, finally, for the eye to perceive them, carries the blood to all parts of the body, to nourish it and repair all injuries, such as healing wounds, broken bones, &c. Where these branches of the aorta end, another set of blood vessels, called veins, begins, in perhaps as many SIR: I have the honor to inform you that at a meeting and as minute branches, which take up the blood brought of a joint committee of members of the Senate and House by the arteries, and unite as they proceed, till at last they of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, I all terminate in one which pours all the blood into the was delegated to tender you a public dinner, to be given | right auricle, from which it is received by the right ven-With the highest respect, I have the honor to be your we breathe, and absorbs from it its electricity and oxygen, which change it from a dark red to a bright vermilion color; and, having been impregnated with these principles of life and health and animal heat, it is thence carried by the pulmonary veins to the left auricle, which This is a subject of great importance and beauty, in pours it into the left ventricle, to be again distributed to which the omniscient Architect and great mechanic of the all parts of the body as before.

It has long been known to anatomists that every artery nervous system, to be distributed to the mind or to the growth and nourishment. body, under the control, in some measure, of volition.

There are in the body nerves of motion, voluntary and involuntary; nerves of sensation, and nerves of nutrition. Now, neither motion, sensation, nor nutrition can The lecture opened with an explanatory resumé of the its share of vitality, the brain only becomes developed, and to beat, and all vital functions soon cease. geography of the Arctic regions, illustrated with well pre- the body will necessarily be stunted and become diseased. can say with truth that I have very little feeling on that pared diagrams. One of these was so arranged as to exhibit the seat of search after Sir John Franklin, and upon may be looked for; because vital energy and corporeal strength can only be secured by active exercise. In fact all education is predicated upon this hypothesis; and our those kindlier feelings of our nature which prompt the The experience of Parry and his followers prove that present system of educating the mind and neglecting the

Hence the reason why so few of the graduates of colof all countries, and why, in all pursuits, the most successful are those who have been brought up to an active to the southward and westward, towards Behring's Straits. subjected to but little casual exercise in early life, the But wherein, may I not be allowed to ask, have I erred Failing to accomplish this, he was ordered to attempt a latter becomes incapable of supplying sufficient vital dollars.—Republic of yesterday. in any respect in this matter? May I not put the ques- passage to the north by Wellington channel. Dr. Kane, energy to the mind, however active and well stored with tion, in all confidence, even to those who have done me no by a series of practical arguments, which seem to us al- knowledge; and it becomes sluggish also, and finally disgreater injustice than simply to say that they "do not most conclusive, shows that this was the passage which he qualified for intense application. But if the body has approve of my conduct," wherein do they not approve adopted, and we see, although a few of the English officers attained its full growth and development, or if both body of it? What act do they find fault with? What deed of differ with him in opinion, that the recent publications of and mind are simultaneously and equally exercised in omission or commission do they complain of? Did I do the British press fully sustain this view. The position of youth, man may undergo almost any amount of mental any thing wrong? Or did I leave undone any thing which | Sir John Franklin's first winter quarters, at the very | labor afterwards. That such is nature's law all expe-I ought to have done, and which was in my power to do? mouth of this channel, is conclusive as to the fact of that rience teaches, as might be easily proved by citing any Is there any higher standard of duty than this? If so, judicious commander having contemplated its future navi- amount of facts. Suffice it to mention the cases of the gation. It was the alternative enjoined by his "orders," Misses Davisson, young Spafford, of Vermont, the learn-My greatest error, perhaps, has been that which a and the lecture detailed many facts to show that it was a ed Blacksmith; and where, in the wide world, can a class riend had the kindness the other day to point out to me; favorite alternative. Dr. Kane, in investigating the natural of men be found who possess more practical wisdom, and it requires a friend sometimes to bring our real errors laws which regulate the ice-drift, showed that the eastern knowledge, energy, and endurance, both of mind and to our notice. "Mr. Owen," said he, "you have done sides of this channel are earlier and more frequently open body, than did our revolutionary ancestors, who subjected every thing which you ought to have done, except to take than the western; and the peculiar position of Sir John themselves to every privation and toil that human nature

Every kind of food contains a certain quantity of car-

The above facts fully account for another fact, i. e. that s promulgated which empowers the Executive to up by Dr. Kane in a manner that surprised us. We were ones, the inhabitants need and consume more animal food ransport for ten years any obnoxious person. The unprepared for the resources which that region evidently than in warm countries and seasons, because more heat is following is the substance of the decree in these possesses for the support of human life. Narwhal, white radiated by their bodies in the fermer than in the latter, and this increased waste must be supplied by an increase ing within the category of delinquents specified the waters of Wellington channel; indeed, it was described of fuel, (carbon,) to keep up the uniform temperature of any person whom the Government found an ob- as a region "teeming with animal life." The migrations of 98 degrees in the body. Hence, one should expect that stacle to its designs. This is the first formal usurfunctions of the human system, would see the folly of inculcating entire abstinence from animal food, under al

It is true that the human body accommodates itself in a great measure to surrounding circumstances, and diffurnishes a dry and comfortable housing! In a word, Dr. ferent modes of living, if the change be made gradually, Kane announced that, "after a careful comparison of all as is evidenced by the fact that by constant use a person the natural resources of this region," he was convinced may accustom oneself to eating as much of narcotic and d and convulsed by the machinations of anarchists, as that food, evel, and clothing—the three great contributors other poisons as would kill a number of persons not acto human existence—were here in superabundant plenty. | customed to them. But this is not a healthy condition of

> so; and, by constituting us omnivorous, he has enabled The interesting question of an open sea around the pole human beings to dwell in every clime. It would be diffivessel to keep from freezing to death. ras then taken up. After citing the theoretical arguments | cult to make the ox or the sheep eat flesh, because creain favor of such a body of water which we cannot here re-tive wisdom did not ordain them to subsist on it. But new, Dr. Kane mentioned that the American Expedition there is a proper medium which alone can ensure health. under Lieut. De Haven had actually seen from their mos In the new States of the West the earth is, during most northern point that unmistakable sign, the dark cloud of the hot season, overshadowed with clouds which attract known as the "water sky;" and Capt. Penny, an energetic the electricity from the earth, and people are consequentwhaler, for whose views Dr. Kane seemed to have a great ly more subject to bilious than to inflammatory diseases; respect, confirmed this "sky" by sighting the water itself. and are less able to bear depletion than in California, Such an open sea has been vaguely called a Polynya, or where the atmosphere is free from clouds during half the Poliniya-a term from the Russian, which implies an open year, and diseases are principally inflammatory, or else space. Dr. Kane cannot think that, in a literal sense, such affect the mucous membrane of the bowels with diarrhoa. a sea exists in regions where the mean temperature is so In both these countries fruit is scarce, and in the former far below the point of congelation. He fully advocated, females are too much engaged in visiting to cultivate a however, the existence of a comparatively iceless sea, in garden, and people must therefore subsist on pork and potatoes, or meat and bread, seasoned with sugar. The con-It is in this region, not far to the north and west of the sequence is that more carbon is taken into and accumu-

Physiologists have supposed that it is the heart that propels the blood to all parts of the body, and thence back sympathy than that of these lost men; and we feel con- to the heart again; and many calculations have been made of the enormous contractile force of this muscular organ. advocacy of their cause, are to be attributed to a sincere con- But this supposition does not pretend to account for the viction of the feasibility of their release. We feel convinced alternate contraction and relaxation of the heart; and it that our community were unaware of the strong grounds is obviously erroneous, because the force required, accordwhich existed to sustain the belief in their continued existence; and we repeat, that the "Smithsonian Institution," founded as it is by an Englishman, has done well in opening to us as a means of receiving authentic information which may have hereafter a practical and philauthropic application to the resone of the authentic and philauthropic application to the resone of the authentic and provided the secret of the authentic and provided the resone of the authentic and provided the secret of the authentic and an authentic and authen philanthropic application to the rescue of our British tions of the arteries and veins, the coats of which are very much thinner than those of the large blood vessels : whereas this hypothesis would require them to be of the same

this electricity and carry it to the brain, the blood in the veins becomes negatively electrified, and is therefore attracted by the positive lungs; for a positive and a negative magnetic pole attract, while two positive or two negative repel each other. Hence, when the blood returns from the right ventricle to the lungs, it becomes positive by contact with the atmospheric air with which they are filled; but the lungs are also constantly positive, and therefore repel the positive blood and send it again through the heart to all parts of the body, in a condition fit to nourish the system and supply the waste constantly going on by absorption. Hence it is manifest that the lungs, and not the heart, which serves merely as a regulator, are the centre of the circulation. From this cursory and very imperfect sketch (necessa-

the same agent modified by adventitious circumstances-

and, as the nerves, accompanying the arteries, receive

rily so, to bring it within the bounds of a newspaper article, and to suggest some important practical hints) may be inferred the vast importance of a full supply of propertricle, which sends it through the pulmonary artery into ly electrified and oxygenated air to health and life; for on the lungs, where it is exposed in the air cells to the air it depend the rapidity of the circulation, the healthy consistency and vitality of the blood, the amount of electricity sent to the brain, and by it distributed to the whole organism, and consequently the proper and healthful performance of its functions by every organ of the body.

universe has manifested his profoundest wisdom in adapting things to each other. He has filled the atmosphere has a nerve accompanying it, while the veins have none; with electricity, and spread it like an ocean over the whole but the design of the Creator in giving nerves to the arte- earth; has supplied our food with suitable and varying ries but not to the veins remained a profound mystery till quantities of carbon to suit all climates and seasons; has lately. It is now well established that with every breath provided organs adapted to extract it from various articles. we inhale a quantity of electricity, mixed with the air, en- and bring it in contact with the air in the lungs to elimiters into the blood in the lungs; and this electricity is nate heat in the arteries to warm us, and to separate them again separated from the blood by friction in the arteries, and send one to the brain for the most important purposes, received by the nerves accompanying them, and by these and the product of their combined action, along with other conveyed to the brain, the great fountain of the whole nutricious substances, to all parts of the body for its

We are so constituted that we can live for a time without any thing else but air. When deprived of this for a very few minutes life becomes extinct; because no electrified air can be taken into the lungs to keep them in a positake place without calling into activity some of these tive state, and enable them to attract the veinous blood, nerves; and the best development of every part of the which therefore stagnates in the veins and leaves the arbody takes place when this nervous fluid or electricity is teries empty at death; no more electricity can be conveyequally distributed to every part of it, at least so long as ed to the brain, for none circulates in the arteries, and no a person continues to grow; for, when the mind, for in- more can therefore be sent to other organs to enable them. stance, only is exercised, the corporeal frame is robbed of to perform their functions; the heart consequently refuses

M. KOSSUTH

This distinguished stranger received visiters at his quarters, at Brown's Hotel, yesterday, from ten to about two o'clock. He afterwards visited the Secretary of State. (Mr. Webster,) with whom he dined-several friends

being also present at the dinner party. It is understood that M. Kossurn will continue to receive visiters during to-day.

The suite of M. Kossuth is composed of twenty-two persons; and they have twenty-one rooms at their service. including several parlors.

We learn that upwards of one hundred members of Congress have already subscribed to the proposed banquet in honor of Kossuth, the price of a ticket to which is five

Another Search for Sir John Franklin.-The Pioeer and Intrepid, screw steam-vessels, formerly employed in the Arctic expedition under Captain H. T. C. B., have been taken into the inner basin, alongside the factory here, to have their engines examined and any defects found in them made good, preparatory to the ves-sels being again made ready, in the spring of 1852, for a further search for Sir John Franklin and his long absent companions. Great regret is expressed by several of the officers who were attached to Capt. Austin's expedition that they were not made aware, when in the Arctic re-gions, of what has now been stated by Capt. Penny, in a letter to the Secretary of the Geographical Society, that he had found "a watch-tent upon a height about four miles north and west from the position occupied by the ships" as the winter quarters of the missing vessels, and
"in the tent we found a small piece of paper with the
words 'to be called,' the other part of which must have
been torn off, thus evidently showing that a regular watch had been left." Had the officers been aware of the fact take, and that a further search is desirable at the earliest

A LARGE BEQUEST .- NATHANIEL WEST, who died in Salem on Friday last, bequeathed, as we learn from the Salem Gazette, the extensive property known as the Derby Wharf and the income of \$25,000 to be appropriated to the support of a school for instruction in navigation.

Two Roman tablets, says the "Avisador Malaguense," were lately discovered by some workmen at Malaga, made of bronze, and weighing one 164 and the other 100 pounds. They were found to contain engraved in columns the local laws of the city of Malaga, at the period when it first be came a part of the Roman empire.

WHITE MOUNTAINS.—The mercury stood, at Franconia, on the 17th instant, at half-past 8 A. M., at 18 degrees below zero, and on the 12th instant at 22 below zero. On Friday last the thermometer in the Notch stood at 14 degrees below zero, while at the Franconia Iron Works the spirit thermometer stood at 26 below zero, and the mercury was thirty-two degrees below zero! On Sunday last the mercury rose to 38 above zero, and a great deal

A sheet-iron drum, or "dumb stove," used in a chamber of the sash and blind factory of Mr. Phelps, in Salem, as a receiver of surplus heat from a stove, blew up last week, with a loud report, and was completely demolished. The stove was fed with anthracite coal, but chips had been thrown upon the top of the coal, and it is probable that the flame passed up into the drum, and set fire to gas which had collected there.

A LONG TRIP ON THE LAKE .- The schooner Westchester returned to Buffalo on the 18th, after an absence of four-teen days on Lake Erie, without having been able to make grow in his country.

The Creator constituted us to subsist on a mixed diet, as is proved by reason and by the fact that mankind do crew were obliged to live on one meal a day, and they so; and, by constituting us emnivorous, he has enabled

The Pittsburg American of Tuesday last says: "We have just learned that Adams's Express car, coming over the Pennsylvania railroad, caught fire at or near Johnstown on Sunday night, and was entirely consumed, in-volving in the same ruin nearly all the contents of the car, which is said to have been unusually heavy loaded. Some of the wrecks of the baggage have reached here, trunks, &c., half burnt up. The loss will no doubt be considerable, wherever it falls."

Statistics prepared by the American Medical Associaion represent that, in the city of Boston, during the three years from 1846 to 1849, there were 6,888 deaths from consumption alone, while in the same period the deaths from typhus fever were only 2,826, and those from dysentery only 1,606. In the five years from 1844 to 1849 there were in Massachusetts 13,004 deaths from diseases of the respiratory system—30 per cent. of the whole mortality. In Lowell, in every 10,000 deaths, 2,500 are from lung diseases. According to the lately published registration of mortality in Massachusetts, therewere in 1849 4,684 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs; a greater number, by thousands, than were caused by the diseases of any other set of organs.

It will be seen from statistics like these that consump-

tion is very properly called the "Scourge of New Eng-land." Cholera, small-pox, and all other epidemic and infectious diseases combined have never been, and will probably never be, such causes of death as this one disease of consumption.

It is evident to any thinking man that these terrible results flow from fatal mistakes in living. New England

lestroyer? In our opinion, the answer to this question lies in skins debilitated in suffocating stove heat, to such an extent as to make them susceptible to the influence of every otherstrength throughout. This fact alone is sufficient to over-turn the old hydraulic notion of the circulation of the blood. sphere. There is no adaptation of clothing to temperature, The fact is, the electricity continually taken into the lungs keeps them perpetually in a positive electrical, or recking kitchens, stifling with their heat and steam, that rather magnetic state—for electricity and magnetism are is adapted, exactly, to the production of pulmonary discases.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.